

# RICHESON ADMITS HE POISONED GIRL; BEGS FOR LIFE TO REDEEM HIS PAST

WEATHER—Snow Probable To-night or Sunday.

**FINAL EDITION.**

PRICE ONE CENT.

**The**

"Circulation Books Open to All."



**World.**

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## COLD CAUSES SIX DEATHS; THOUSANDS SUFFER WITH MERCURY FIVE ABOVE ZERO

Men, Women and Children Crowd Charitable Lodging Houses Throughout City.

SHIPPING DEMORALIZED

Skating Promised for Tomorrow—Same Weather Will Last Several Days.

After a temperature of 5 degrees above zero at 7 o'clock today, and a night and dawn of intense cold and biting wind that caused death, suffering and accidents all over the city, the temperature of the coldest day this winter took an upward turn. By 10 o'clock it reached 10 degrees and by 1 o'clock stood at 11 degrees.

Tomorrow, when skating is promised at Central and Van Cortlandt Parks, the weather will be slightly warmer, according to Weather Bureau predictions, but snow flurries may arrive. By Monday another cold wave, that is sweeping Atlanticward from the North-western prairies, is due.

With the cold at its point of greatest intensity, the city experienced such a morning as it has not had since 1907. Thousands were driven to any sort of shelter last night, even to sleeping in company with the more silent figures in the Morgue. Ice-laden ships crawled in, ferries crunched their way into their berths, commuters crowded as they waited for late trains and the police patrol system was abandoned temporarily.

**SIX DEATHS DIRECTLY LAID TO THE COLD.**

Six deaths were reported as directly attributable to the cold, and the police have a long list of accidents and exposure cases. The deaths reported were:

William Donovan, fifty-four years old, of No. 541 Second avenue, Brooklyn, collapsed at the elevated station at Franklin and Lexington avenues. He dragged himself to a drug store and died before a physician could reach him.

Mr. George Thompson, thirty-five years of age, fell from his home at No. 35 Vandewater street, Brooklyn, to his death yesterday. He had reached the steps of his apartment house, at West street and Vandewater, when he slipped and fell. He was carrying a bundle of papers.

John David, a retired policeman, of No. 121 Fifth avenue, Brooklyn, was found dead in the cold house in Forest road, Queens. He had not been seen for several days. He was carrying a bundle of papers.

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(Continued on Second Page.)

## HARMON AMAZED TO FIND HIS BOOM HERE BEFORE HIM

Ohio Governor Says He Never Had Heard of Headquarters in This City.

SEES PARTY VICTORY.

Republican Rows Throughout Country Add to Democratic Chance of Success.

Gov. Judson Harmon of Ohio came to town today to attend the dinner of the Lotos Club, where he will speak tonight. As one of the four men most prominently considered as possibilities for the Democratic Presidential nomination, Gov. Harmon was the center of interest from the time he arrived at the Waldorf-Astoria, his coming was belated. Three times his train broke down.

"My only purpose in coming to New York," said Gov. Harmon, "is to attend the dinner of the Lotos Club. The test of my speech will be the recent trip of the Western Governors, and there will be a little politics of the harmless sort, largely touched with patriotism. My trip is without political significance or intent."

Gov. Harmon's attention was called to a report that his friends intended to open headquarters in New York. He said on this point:

"That is the first I have heard of such a thing. I have not been advised that any of my friends intended to take such a step."

He was asked concerning what preference he had with respect to the selection of a city for holding the National Democratic Convention, and he said he was not particular in that regard.

"But I am perfectly willing to let the Republicans have all of the troubles. We had ours long enough. The conditions with the Republicans in all sections are such as to make the outlook for the Democratic party at the coming election good."

Gov. Harmon would not talk about his personal chances for the Democratic nomination. He said that the harmony of the Democrats and the lack of harmony among the Republicans promised well as a whole, but that he did not think it proper for him to talk about himself in connection with the nomination.

He will leave tomorrow for Columbus. He said he had arranged no political conferences during his stay, and did not expect any, although he always found that he had many callers with all of whom he was always glad to talk.

**TEACHERS THREATEN STRIKE**

Freeport Can't Get Any One to Take Ousted Superintendent's Job.

FREEPORT, N. Y., Jan. 6.—The board of education here has thought it had seen the last of its troubles when it fired Supt. Arthur E. Barnes because of his alleged mismanagement of the school. But today the board learned that it was in for a new round of trouble when it learned that no one was willing to take the job of superintendent.

A week ago Prof. Roy L. Smith was asked to perform the duties of Barnes. Prof. Smith did not like the way the Barnes case had been handled. He thought the board ought to have been more forthcoming in its attitude for allowing a promotion examination to be held when Barnes was still in the school. He would not only refuse to take the job, but he did not want to teach in Freeport after this year. The board went him one better and fired him.

Now there is no head of schools, there is talk of a general strike of teachers, and all negotiations, which were to have begun next month, are in the balance.

**Man Poisoned by Gas.**

A man, identified as a tailor, was found dead in a room at the Hotel Hamilton, 100 West 42d street, yesterday. The man was found by a janitor. The cause of death was determined to be gas.

**One Killed, 13 Hurt in Wreck.**

TORONTO, Kan., Jan. 6.—Two Santa Fe passenger trains crashed together at Wright, near Dodge City, last night. One engineer was killed, another fatally hurt and twelve passengers injured.

**New Mexico in State.**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—New Mexico, the forty-seventh State to enter the Union, ceased to be a Territory at 11:55 today, when President Taft signed the proclamation of Statehood.

## Avis Linnell, Girl Killed by Minister, Slayer, and Miss Edmonds, His Fiancee



AVIS LINNELL

## AMERICAN SHOT FOR REVENGE BY WOMAN IN BERLIN

N. M. Rodkinson's Would-Be Slayer Tries Suicide to Escape Arrest.

BERLIN, Jan. 6.—Norbert M. Rodkinson, a prominent member of the American colony here, was shot, probably with fatal effect, last evening by a milliner named Alwynne Siede. The woman was intercepted as she was escaping from Mr. Rodkinson's office after she had committed the crime, and immediately fired a bullet into her own body, which is not, however, likely to prove fatal.

The affair, according to the allegations of Alwynne Siede's friends, was brought about by the interruption of long-standing relations between her and Mr. Rodkinson, and his refusal to support her two children.

Mrs. Rodkinson, however, asserts that it was an attempt at extortion on the part of the woman Siede, who had been a servant of the family years ago in Russia.

Mr. Rodkinson is a director of the American Chamber of Commerce here, and has represented American firms for many years in Germany and Russia. He had some existing business relations with the Russo-Japanese war when he was concerned in attempts to sell South American warships to Russia. He is a native of New Orleans.

Norbert M. Rodkinson was well known in New York as a newspaper writer. For the last seven or eight years he has resided in Europe, representing American manufacturing concerns. He is about forty-five years old and is said to be a distant relative to Gen. Beauregard of Confederate Army fame.

Mr. Rodkinson was particularly well known at the offices of Charles E. Flint & Co., No. 25 Broad street, although it was said there today that he was not doing any work for the firm. He has had correspondence with the firm, however, and called at its offices when he was in New York last.

For a time Rodkinson was associated with Hart O. Berg of Paris in the exploitation of the Wright airplane and in machinery appertaining to airships on which the Wrights have patents. He was also the agent in Europe for a phonograph company.

Friends of Mr. Rodkinson said today that they knew nothing of the woman who shot him.

**BANKER CUMMINS OWES \$4,680,120, HAS \$133,600.**

Solicitors in bankruptcy of William J. Cummings, the former director of the Carnegie Trust Company, filed today in the United States District Court a schedule of assets of \$133,600, and a schedule of liabilities of \$4,680,120, and a schedule of \$12,000,000 of real estate in New York, New Jersey and the District of Columbia.

Of the liabilities, claims amounting to \$2,700,000 are secured by stocks in the Carnegie Trust Company, New York, and a number of corporations. Claims amounting to \$1,000,000 are unsecured, and claims of \$800,000 are bills, notes and other securities, which Cummings says ought to be paid by other parties thereto.



CLARENCE V. RICHESON

## SWINGS A CHAIR AT MAGISTRATE'S HEAD IN COURT

Jersey Butcher, Arraigned for Attack on Woman, Tried to Hit O'Connor.

Max Fogelman of No. 78 Second avenue, Passaic, a butcher when arraigned before Magistrate O'Connor in Essex Market Court today on a charge of burglary and assault, grabbed the witness chair and tried to strike the Magistrate on the head with it. He had previously tried to climb over the desk of the Magistrate and strike the Magistrate on the head with it. The police believe he is a dangerous man.

Policeman Nacumack saw Fogelman break out of the door of the Magistrate at No. 12 Division street after midnight today, and he was writing down the record of his arrest. The police believe he is a dangerous man.

Fogelman was arraigned on a charge of burglary and assault on a woman, and was held in the Tombs on \$10,000 bail.

Nacumack had to wait until four other policemen and some passersby had joined him before he could control the prisoner, who was brandishing a knife.

Investigation showed that he had entered the apartment of Miss Lena Elhorn, a young woman, and after demanding money from her, had attacked her and then forced her to flee to the post of her home. He then climbed down the fire escape and hid in the window of Long 121, the Chinaman, and after failing to secure the Chinaman, he gave him money to get him out of the Tombs.

Fogelman denied the charge of burglary, but he admitted that he had entered the apartment of Miss Lena Elhorn, a young woman, and after demanding money from her, had attacked her and then forced her to flee to the post of her home. He then climbed down the fire escape and hid in the window of Long 121, the Chinaman, and after failing to secure the Chinaman, he gave him money to get him out of the Tombs.

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## PASTOR CONFESSES KILLING CHOIR GIRL TO ESCAPE DISGRACE

Slayer of Avis Linnell Makes Statement to Lawyers and Wants Chance to Live "To Redeem Sinful Past."

DISTRICT-ATTORNEY STANDS OUT FOR DEATH PENALTY.

Trial Will Be Called, but Judge Is Expected to Send Prisoner Away for Life.

BOSTON, Jan. 6.—Tortured by pangs of conscience Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson confessed to-day that he poisoned Avis Linnell whom he had wronged. The confession took the shape of a written statement addressed to his attorneys.

Although District-Attorney Pelletier was approached yesterday and today by Richeson's counsel and asked to agree to the acceptance of a plea of guilty to murder in a degree lesser than the first, he held out for the infliction of the extreme limit of the law. Despite the attitude of the District-Attorney it is believed that Richeson will escape the electric chair.

A doubt as to the minister's sanity has been raised by his act of self-mutilation with a piece of tin in his cell on Dec. 20, although his statement of guilt betrays the workings of a clear and acute mind. The impression here is that the court will accept a plea of guilty of murder in the second degree and sentence Richeson to prison for life. He expresses in his confession the hope that such will be the outcome.

**PASTOR TO HEAR FATE MONDAY.**

The District-Attorney said this afternoon that while his duty as a prosecuting officer impels him to call Richeson to trial on Jan. 15 there may be some way of allowing the self-confessed murderer to go into court before that date and enter a plea. It is expected that Richeson will be taken before Judge Sanderson on Monday.

Following is Richeson's statement of guilt, which was made public at 1 o'clock this afternoon:

"To John L. Lee, Esq., William A. Morse, Esq., Philip E. Dunbar, Esq.:

"Gentlemen—Deeply penitent for my sin and earnestly desiring as far as in my power lies to make atonement, I hereby confess that I am guilty of the offense of which I stand indicted. I am moved to this course by no inducement of self-benefit or leniency. Heinous as is my crime, God has not wholly abandoned me, and my conscious and manhood, however depraved and blighted, will not admit of my still further wronging by a public trial her whose pure young life I have destroyed.

"Under the lashings of remorse I have suffered and am suffering the tortures of the damned. In this I find a measure of comfort. In my mental anguish I recognize that there is still by the mercy of the Master some remnant of the divine spark of goodness lingering with me.

"I could wish to live only because within some prison's wall; might in some small measure redeem my sinful past, help some other despairing soul and at last find favor with my God.

"You are instructed to deliver this to the District-Attorney or to the Judge of the court. Sincerely yours,

"CLARENCE V. T. RICHESON."

Richeson has been in the way of making a confession for some time. One thing that held him back was his belief that although he might admit his guilt he could still be sentenced to death. Well posted lawyers say that the Court may accept a plea of guilty to first degree murder and then sentence the self-confessed criminal to the electric chair, but there is no precedent for this procedure in Massachusetts law.

**WONT ACCEPT COMPROMISE PLEA.**

The District-Attorney has steadfastly refused to listen to any suggestion that he accept a compromise plea for Richeson. He has taken the stand that he has absolutely flawless proof that Richeson committed one of the most brutal and sickening crimes in the history of this commonwealth in that the confession of his victim in his integrity was used by him in the accomplishment of his attack upon her virtue and his attack upon her life.

The confession was made to the lawyers yesterday. Unable to move the